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IMPORTANT DATES

February School Board Board Meeting -
Thursday, February 7, 5 PM

RESOURCES

[2017 Chamber Education Rack Card](#)
[Praxis Test Dates](#)

[Homework Louisiana \(Free Online Tutoring, Job Search Assistance and Academic and Career Resources\)](#)

[Learning Library \(Career Oriented Interactive Online Learning Platform\)](#)

[Mathcounts Problem of the Week](#)

[Natchitoches Parish Library Art & Poetry Contest](#)

Education News

A+ Coalition Funds Middle School Math Clubs

NSU Magnet School and NSU Middle Lab are participating in Math Counts Alexandria Regional Competition at Tioga Junior High School. The Chamber A+ Coalition will be sponsoring these teams to ensure a solid foundation for students' future success in STEM careers. The winning team will be awarded an

additional \$200 to help fund their club activities.

Students from Northwestern State University's Middle Lab School pictured are (back row) Laura Lyles (Chamber President), Noah O'Rourke, Jacob Hypes, Jiaqi Yi, Emalie Dunn (Teacher Sponsor), (middle row) Anna Hobart, Brynn Landry, Clarke Glenn, (front row) Finley Ocon, and Claire Perritt.



Students from Magnet are pictured holding plaques from prior year competitions. Pictured from left to right, is (back row) Stephonie French (Principal), Issac Young, Diamond Smith, Wyatt Laning, Joshua Chesal, Calder Deford, and Zenda Sawyer (Teacher Sponsor), (middle row) Lilyasta Laning, Noah Martinez, Tahdeuz Tibbs, (front row) Eric O'Bannon, and Ethan

Bumgardner.

These clubs are proud to show their continued commitment, involvement and success with Mathcounts. The A+ Coalition is excited to help propel these bright young students towards their future success.

[Read Press Release Here](#)

School Board Members Receive Training

Dr. Jessie Jackson is making his way around Natchitoches Parish and leaving no stone unturned. He met with the School Board Members on Thursday January 24th to help them unite as one. Some of the topics covered included working together and leaving a legacy for the Parish that will have lasting and positive change. He challenged each Board Member to set aside personal agenda and racial barriers and remember why each one of them was elected.



"The Natchitoches Parish School Board can be the 'The Legacy Board' if we know the population in whom we serve. We must be a purpose driven board with a clear vision and direction. We must be able to clearly articulate and communicate our vision with the students, parents, employees and stakeholders. At the end of the day we must remember our ultimate goal, is to make taxpayers out of every one of our precious children. Where there is no vision the system will perish," said Board Member Steven Harris, District 8.

"Every one of the board members made a commitment that day to put aside their differences and remember the reason we are all here. Our board is a very

diverse board with a distinct collection of knowledge. Dr. Jackson helped us to see the amazing difference that a successful board can make for our Parish as a whole. We have the potential to actually boost economic growth with the decisions that we make. It is an exciting time to be a School Board Member in our Parish, we want to build a legacy for our children," said Board Member Reba Phelps, District 6.

Dr. Jackson is an Organizational Consultant who is contracted by the Natchitoches Parish School Board to address areas of concern and find ways to make long lasting improvements. He is meeting with various schools, teachers, administration and our School Superintendent.

The School Board Members will be attending the 2019 Louisiana School Board Association Annual Conference to be held in Lake Charles, LA February 24-26th. This conference will include Ethics Training as well as guest speakers with topics specific to new board members and enriching current board members. Board Members are required to have annual training.

February's Academic All Star: Rodney Meziere



"Mr. Meziere goes above and beyond to help students maximize their potential. He works with students to see that they can achieve more than they know themselves. He is also a 4-H leader, and works with the youth throughout the school year in the

community."

- DeVoderick Ridley

The Orchard Foundation and NSU have partnered to implement a U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Grant



The goal of the Central Louisiana Instructional Partnership (CLIP) project is to improve student achievement in nine rural, high-need school districts in up to 70 schools in Central Louisiana by preparing highly qualified educators to teach in critical shortage areas - middle school math and science. CLIP will address the high teacher turnover and shortages facing rural schools by developing and implementing this innovative teacher residency program with integrated professional development and induction support. In turn, CLIP is expected to produce measurable positive impacts on the academic achievement of low-performing rural Central Louisiana students in grades 6-8. For more information, contact Jennifer Cowley: Jennifer@theorchardfoundation.org.

Early Childhood Scores on the Rise

Education starts before Kindergarten, and in Natchitoches Parish, our Early Learning Centers have been steadily increasing. See their most recent scores and progress.

[View Scores for Your Schools Here](#)

Call for Academic All Stars

Nominees Sought for Educator Recognition Program



There are some amazing teachers in Natchitoches Parish, and we'd like to highlight the amazing things they are doing with a Teacher of the Month award called the Academic All Stars. If you would like to nominate an Academic All Star, please click below. Winners will be surprised in their classroom with a certificate and an award provided by our Corporate Partners.

[Nominate an Academic All Star](#)

Join the Movement



Become a Corporate Partner

Many organizations look to Natchitoches businesses for financial support throughout the year. The A+ Coalition seeks corporate partners not just to write a check, but to join the movement that will advance education in Natchitoches, a cause that we believe may be the most important investment you will make in our community.

[Partnership Info](#)

Become an Individual Member

The A+ Coalition recognizes that the responsibility to advance education in Natchitoches Parish relies not just on our educators, but on the entire community at large. Join today to become part of the movement that will make an impact on education today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

[Membership Info](#)

Thanks to our Corporate Partners

Platinum Partners

Natchitoches Regional Medical Center

Inspiring Excellence Everyday

Silver Partners



Bronze Partners



Individual Members

*Tony Davis
Micah Foshee
Jessica Broadway
Mike Newton
Beverly Broadway
Jessica McGrath
Laura Lyles
Mike & Becky Wolff*

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter! The A+ Coalition is an initiative of the Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce that aims to bring our community together to

help advance education in Natchitoches Parish. To learn more about the Chamber and its initiatives, click any of the images below.



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